THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes Sir, the Post of Economic & Statistical Adviser (ESA)' was advertised in Employment News in the month of January-February and June-July, 1998.

(b) After completion of 5 years, an extension for a period of six months was granted. The grant of 2nd extension for another 6 months is also being processed.

(c) The period of deputation can be extended after 6 years *i.e.* for the 2nd year in excess of the period prescribed in the Recruitment Rules, in rare and exceptional circumstances, in public interest.

(d) the question of granting further extension or terminating the deputation after six years will arise only towards the end of the extended period of deputation.

**National Agriculture Extension Programme**

1712. SHRI ONKAR SINGH LAKHAWAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total financial assistance provided by World Bank under National Agriculture Extension Programme;

(b) the amount provided to Rajasthan during 1997-98 and 1998-99;

(c) the number of projects at Ajmer in Rajasthan that have received financial assistance from World Bank under National Agriculture Extension Programme; and

(d) whether any new project is also under consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) A Statement is enclosed. *(See* below)

(b) The World Bank assisted National Agricultural Extension Project-I which included the State of Rajasthan had closed in March, 1993, therefore the question of financial assistance to Rajasthan during 1997-98 and 1998-99 did not arise.

(c) The district of Ajmer also received financial assistance under National Agricultural Extension Project-I.

(d) No, Sir.

**Statement**

(Rs. in Million)

| Project | Period | Project Cost | Cumulative Disbursement |
|---|---|---|---|
| National Agricultural Extension Project-I | 1984 to 1993 | 632.60 | 550.50 |
| National Agricultural Extension Project-II | 1985 to 1993 | 1065.00 | 825.22 |
| National Agricultural Extension Project-Ill | 1988 to 1995 | 3472.34 | 2737.19 |

**Bill on Modified Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme'**

1713. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 323 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 25th February, 1999 and state:

(a) whether Government are considering the proposal to bring in a Bill on the Modified Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (MCCIS); and

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.